

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DEAE-00 JUSE-00 SNM-02
TRSE-00 OES-06 OMB-01 HEW-04 /098 W
-----110431Z 109700 /75-62

R 101720Z MAR 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5833

INFO AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, BM, CA

SUBJECT: UNFDAC ASSISTANCE TO BURMA

REF: RANGOON 581

1. UNDER AGREEMENT SIGNED 14 MAY 1976 BETWEEN BURMESE GOVERNMENT AND UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL, UNFDAC IS TO PROVIDE \$6.5 MILLION OVER FIVE-YEAR PERIOD FOR MULTI-DISCIPLINARY DRUG CONTROL PROGRAM ENCOMPASSING ACTIVITIES IN FIELDS OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, LAW ENFORCEMENT, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE. AS WAS IS AWARE, AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED AFTER SEVERAL YEARS OF DIFFICULT NEGOTIATION AND REPRESENTS IMPORTANT BREAKTHROUGH IN EFFORT TO CONTROL ILLICIT NARCOTICS PRODUCTION/TRAFFICKING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.

2. OF TOTAL \$6.5 MILLION FUNDING, \$2.9 MILLION WAS TO BE EXPANDED DURING 1976-1977. AS RESULT OF DISAPPOINTING LEVEL OF PLEDGES RECEIVED TO DATE FOR 1977, HOWEVER, UNFDAC
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HAS DECIDED TO REDUCE ACTUAL ALLOCATION THROUGH END OF 1977 TO APPROXIMATELY \$1.25 MILLION. UNFDAC INTENTION HAS NOT YET BEEN DISCUSSED WITH GOB, WHOSE REACTION IS EXPECTED TO BE HIGHLY NEGATIVE.

3. MISSION BELIEVES THAT EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO AVOID SETBACK TO OVERALL PROMISING NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORTS

IN BURMA WHICH COULD RESULT FROM CUTBACK OR DELAY IN IMPLEMENTATION OF UNFDAC PROGRAM. WE NOTE IN THIS REGARD (REFTEL) THAT CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ALLOCATED \$40 MILLION FOR AID TO BURMA OVER NEXT FIVE YEARS, THAT OF THIS AMOUNT ONLY ABOUT \$16 MILLION HAS SO FAR BEEN COMMITTED, AND THAT IT IS PROVING DIFFICULT TO FIND GOOD PROJECTS ON WHICH TO SPEND REMAINING \$34 MILLION. WE BELIEVE THAT CANADIAN GOVERNMENT MIGHT GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO UTILIZING A PORTION OF THESE FUNDS TO FINANCE UNFDAC PROGRAM, MOST OF WHICH FALLS WITHIN DEVELOPMENT AREA. SUCH FUNDING COULD PREFERABLY BE UNDERTAKEN UNDER UNFDAC UMBRELLA FOR PROJECTS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED BY CANADA. IT WOULD OF COURSE BE OVER AND ABOVE CASH CONTRIBUTION ALREADY PLEDGED.

4. MISSION RECOMMENDS THAT DEPARTMENT CONTACT CANADIAN CND REPRESENTATIVE DONALD M. SMITH, INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE OTTAWA TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION. UNFDAC IS ALSO ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT SMITH IN THIS REGARD. IN ADDITION, UNFDAC REPRESENTATIVE MCKENZIE AND UN/DND REPRESENTATIVE SAENGER WILL CONTACT CANADIAN EMBASSY BANGKOK (PROBABLY DURING NEXT WEEK) DURING VISIT TO SEVERAL COUNTRIES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA (INCLUDING BURMA). CATTO

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Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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